PTO/SB/08A (08-00) Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0551-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

Examiner

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 1 of 1

| Application Number     | 09/734,787               |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Filing Date            | December 12, 2000        |
| First Named Inventor   | Mark A. Ritchart, et al. |
| Group Art Unit         | 3736                     |
| Examiner Name          | Jonathan M. Foreman      |
| Attorney Docket Number | END0712USNP              |

|                      | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |        |                                      |   |  |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials |                          |                      | Number | Kind Code <sup>z</sup><br>(if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication<br>of Cited Document<br>mm-dd-yyyy |
| 7                    |                          | 4,705,038            |        | Sjostrom, et al.                     | 11-10-1987                                      | ALL  |
| -                    |                          | 4,995,877            |        | Ams, et al.                          | 02-26-1991                                      | ALL 7  |
|                      | -                        | 5,415,169            |        | Siczek et al.                        | 05-10-1995                                      | ALL  |
|                      | <u> </u>                 | 5,830,219            |        | Bird, et al.                         | 11-03-1998                                      | ALL  |
|                      |                          |                      |        |                                      |   | ALL  |
|                      |                          |                      |        |                                      |   | ALL  |
|                      |                          | ***                  |        |                                      |   | ALL  |
|                      |                          | ·                    |        |                                      |   | ALL  |
|                      |                          |                      |        |                                      |   | ALL  |
|                      |                          |                      |        |                                      |   | ALL  |
| _                    |                          |                      |        |                                      |   | ALL  |
| · <del></del> -      |                          |                      |        |                                      |   | ALL  |

| Examiner Cite Initials No.1 |                          | Foreign             | Patent Documer | ıt                 | Name of Patentee or                                 | Date of<br>Publication of    | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>where relevant |                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|---|------------------------------|--|----------------|
|                             | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Office <sup>3</sup> | Number⁴ Kir    | dCode <sup>5</sup> | Applicant of Cited Document                         | Cited Document<br>mm-dd-yyyy | Sauran annone                            | T <sup>6</sup> |
| _                           |                          | EP-                 | 0654244        |                    | Yoav Paltiell                                       | 05-24-1995                   | ALL                                      |                |
|                             |                          | GB                  | 2018601        | Α                  | Microsurgical Administrative<br>Services Limited    | 10-24-1979                   | All                                      | _              |
| -                           |                          | wo                  | 90/08508       |                    | The Board of Regents for the University of Oklahoma | 08-09-1990                   | ALL                                      |                |
|                             |                          | wo                  | 93/14700       |                    | Mectra Leab, Inc.                                   | .08-05-1993                  | ALL                                      | _              |
|                             | <u> </u>                 | wo                  | 95/25465       |                    | Biopsys Medical, Inc.                               | 09-28-1995                   | ALL                                      | _              |
|                             |                          | wo                  | 96/12453       |                    | Smith & Nephew Dyonics                              | 05-02-1998                   | ALL                                      | -              |

9/19/06 Considered Signature \*EXAMINER: Initial freference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date

1 Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents, 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document, 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible, 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the Individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## SUBMISSION UNDER MPEP 609 D

Application Number 09/734,787

Filing Date December 12, 2000

First Named Inventor Mark A. Ritchart, et al.

Group Art Unit 3736

Examiner Name Jonathan M. Foreman

Attorney Docket Number END0712USNP

Page 1 of 1

| US | PATENT | DOCUM | FNTS |
|----|--------|-------|------|

|                      |  |                                       | U.S. Patent Docum | nent                                 |   |  |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials | Cite<br>No.1                                     | of Cited Document                     | Number            | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) | Pages, Columns, Lines, where<br>relevant passages or relevant<br>figures appear |  |
|                      |  |                                       |                   |                                      |   |  |
|                      |  |                                       |                   |                                      |   |  |
|                      |  |                                       |                   |                                      |   |  |
|                      | + $+$  |                                       |                   |                                      | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·   |  |
|                      |  |                                       | <del>- </del>     |                                      |   |  |
| <del></del>          | 1 1  |                                       |                   |                                      |   |  |
|                      | <del>                                     </del> | ·····                                 |                   |                                      |   |  |
|                      | <del>  </del> -                                  |                                       |                   |                                      |   |  |
| <del> ·</del> · ·    |  |                                       |                   |                                      |   |  |
| ·                    |  | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |                   |                                      |   |  |
|                      | $\Box$   |                                       |                   |                                      | ,   |  |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner<br>Initials  | Cite         | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document   | whe         |              |  | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>where relevant passages<br>or relevant figures<br>appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|-----------------------|--------------|--|-------------|--------------|--|--|----------------|
|                       |              |  |             |              |  | ALL  |                |
|                       |              |  |             | <del> </del> | ļ  |  |                |
|                       |              |  | <u> </u>    | <u> </u>     | <del>                                     </del> |  |                |
|                       |              |  |             |              |  |  |                |
|                       |              |  |             |              |  |  |                |
|                       |              |  |             |              |  |  |                |
|                       |              | OTHER PRIOR ART - N  |             |              |  |  | ,              |
| Examiner 's Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published |             |              |  | T²   |                |
|                       |              | EPO Search Report dated April 5737.  | 22, 2004 f  | or European  | Patent Ap  | oplication No. EP 04 07  |                |
|                       |              | EPO Search Report dated February 2,  | 2005 for Fu | mnoon Patent | Apolication A                                    | 10 EP 04 07 7757   |                |
| _                     |              | EPO Search Report dated March 2, 20  |             |              |  |  |                |
|                       |              |  |             |              |  |  |                |
|                       |              |  |             |              |  |  |                |
|                       |              |  |             |              |  |  |                |
|                       | <u> </u>     |  |             |              |  |  | <u> </u>       |

|           | _/_  | _        |                                       |            |            | •  |          |
|-----------|------|----------|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|----|----------|
| Examiner  | T    | $\Gamma$ |                                       | Date       | 9/10       |    |          |
| Signature | املا |          | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | Considered | <u>//۱</u> | 14 | <u> </u> |
|           | ~    |          |                                       |            |            |    |          |